

REMARKS

Claims 7 is pending in this application. The Office Action dated February 19, 2003 indicates that claims 1-6 are pending. Concurrent with the filing of this application, on February 15, 2001, a preliminary amendment was filed canceling claims 1-6 and presenting new claim 7. A courtesy copy of the preliminary amendment and stamped postcard confirming the USPTO's receipt of the preliminary amendment is attached hereto. Further, in a telephonic conference held between Examiner Farah and Mr. Jaeschke on May 14, 2003, the Examiner indicated that the action of February 19, 2003 would be withdrawn and a new action would be issued. Since applicants have not received written confirmation of the withdrawal of the earlier action, the present response is filed to avoid the abandonment of this application.

Applicant, therefore, requests the withdrawal of the Office Action of February 19, 2003 and the entry of the preliminary amendment filed on February 15, 2001. All claims being in condition for allowance, prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant(s) petition(s) for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 509582000211.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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